

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 991

By Trail

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Head Coach Rick Insell and the Shelbyville Central High School Golden Eaglettes on winning the 2004 TSSAA Class AAA girls basketball championship.

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly is pleased to specially honor and commend those successful high school athletic teams that, through their magnificent exploits, bring honor to Tennessee and serve as exceptional ambassadors of this State; and

WHEREAS, steeped in the Golden Eaglette tradition of basketball excellence, the members of the Shelbyville Central High School girls basketball team are part of a legendary program that has won more state basketball championships than any other school in Tennessee history; and

WHEREAS, unlike other seasons, the 2004 Shelbyville Central High School Golden Eaglettes battled unexpected adversity both on and off the court this year, but like true champions they accepted the challenge and vanquished every foe to claim the TSSAA Class AAA Girls State Championship for a record 12th time by defeating Craigmont 57-43 to complete the season with an overall record of 31-5; and

WHEREAS, on the road to their third State Championship in four years, the Golden Eaglettes soundly defeated their opponents in each round at the District and Region level, entering the state tournament with an impressive margin of victory average of 44.2 points; and

WHEREAS, in an exemplary display of courage and skill, Shelbyville rallied from a two-point deficit at the end of the third quarter against Greeneville in their Semi-Final game to outscore their opponent 18-7 in the fourth quarter for a 48-39 victory to enter the Championship Game; and

WHEREAS, the Golden Eaglettes faced Craigmont in the Championship Game, where once again they established firm control of the contest at the beginning of the second half,

outscored their foe 15-6 in the third period before extinguishing a late rally by the team from Memphis to gain their unprecedented 12th state championship; and

WHEREAS, a team comprised of outstanding players who put team goals and teamwork first, Shelbyville was led by two-time state tournament Most Valuable Player and Class AAA Miss Basketball winner, Ashleigh Newman, and McDonald's All-American and University of Tennessee-signee, Alex Fuller, who was also a finalist for Class AAA Miss Basketball, thus making the Golden Eaglettes the first Class AAA team in Tennessee history to have two players nominated for this prestigious award during the same season; and

WHEREAS, this outstanding championship team was composed of Abby Cannon, Alex Fuller, Samantha Houston, Katrina Kelly, Ashleigh Newman, Tabatha Almader, Amy Beech, April Snipes, Latoya Stone, Andria Johnson, Alex Muckle, Lindsey Trice, Kayla Bryant, Anisha Buchanan, Kayla Potts, Ceny Phelps, and Brittany Smith with managers Sarah Biddle and Anna Sneed; and

WHEREAS, Head Coach Rick Insell and Assistant Coaches LaBora McCroskey, Jennifer Wilhelm-Gray, Mark Potts and Chad Spencer, along with Scout Ray Rich provided expert guidance and leadership to these young women as they continued their long and prosperous reign as the best high school girls basketball program in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the Shelbyville Central High School Golden Eaglettes epitomize all that is good in today's student-athlete, as they have achieved the highest level of success on the hardwood, while showing the highest degree of character both on and off the court; and

WHEREAS, the dedication, determination, work ethic, and talent of this group of young women not only made possible a championship basketball season, but also surely bode well for their success in every future endeavor; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to acknowledge and applaud the Shelbyville Central High School Golden Eaglettes for winning the 2004 TSSAA Class AAA Girls State Basketball Championship and serving as examples of the high quality of the youth of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

CONCURRING, that we do hereby honor and congratulate Head Coach Rick Insell and the Shelbyville Central High School Golden Eaglettes on winning the 2004 TSSAA Class AAA Girls State Championship, once again proving themselves to be exemplary and capable young women who are worthy of this General Assembly's accolades.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate number of copies of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.